

THE CARROT AND THE WHIP

i can remember when the intellectuals
used to debate whether huxley or orwell
was right.

some would even make a case
that both were wrong.

by now i think it should be perfectly obvious
that both were right
with a vengeance.

-- Gerald Locklin

Long Beach CA

THERE IS NO FUTURE

There is no future. There is
only an exhaustion of days
that begin and somehow end
as mathematical equations.

Tomorrow imitates today
with its mercenary fashions,
elegant boredoms of the rich.
Our diaries have become bankbooks
with subtractions, divisions
and more or less successful deceptions.

The future is a cosmetic dishonesty
used in advertising and chic philosophy
made to drug oneself
into yet another grisly campaign
translated into sickly leisure.

Garbage invariably floats on top
of rivers and human lava.
That's ambition's law.

Every victor knows the future
and is occasionally afraid
of something breathing in the dark.